

## Abstract

A method is presented for controlling process delay times between a) thin  
5 film deposition and lubricant application, and b) lubricant application and abrasive  
polishing. Applicants have discovered that for certain lubricants, a minimum  
delay time after the overcoat has been deposited before the lubricant is applied  
increases the number of disks passing the glide test after abrasive polishing. In  
addition, applicants have discovered that for certain lubricants, the abrasive  
10 polishing should take place within a maximum time window following the  
application of the lubricant. A computerized work-in-progress tracking system is  
preferably used to implement the method of the invention.